

National report for Finland – December 2015

Date 31.12.2015
Country Finland
Organisation Suomen Rautatiematkustajat ry, <http://www.rautatiematkustajat.fi/>
Name Kalevi Kämäräinen

Only general remarks + one very positive thing this time:

Since our October report¹ there have been no revolutionary developments in Finland. In general, the bus branch is still enjoying success and rail passenger transport waits for political decisions to be made in early 2016.

There are some incidents like the investigation on bus cartel claims by the Finnish Competition and Consumer Authority², but that was only the start of a process. We will have chances to report these developments when (if) the time comes.

[There was another investigation against VR by the Computer and Consumer Authority that ended up being a sort of kangaroo court. The complainant was dissatisfied because VR did not lease or sell old railway rolling stock to others (and preferred to scrap everything). The complaint was filed in late 2012 and was cancelled in early 2015 as the complainant got fed up with prolonging schedules and decided to purchase old rolling stock from abroad³. In early December the Authority decided that there was no wrongdoing on VR's side.⁴]

A bit belated but very gratifying "Christmas present" was delivered only today: politicians finally intervene on VR's policy of scrapping usable railway rolling stock.⁵

¹ http://www.rautatiematkustajat.fi/National_report_FIN_3_2015.pdf

² http://yle.fi/uutiset/competition_authority_investigates_country-wide_bus_cartel_claims/8501543

³ <http://www.railjournal.com/index.php/locomotives/first-locomotive-for-finlands-fennia-rail-on-test.html>

⁴ <http://www.talouselama.fi/uutiset/kilpailijakokelas-hatisteli-vr-aa-viranomaistutkinnalla-nosti-kadet-pystyyn-6132020>

⁵ <http://www.aamulehti.fi/Kotimaa/1195012437361/artikkeli/vr+n+junakaluston+romutus+on+katkolla.html>